

**A Modular Assembly for a Self-Indexing Computer Pointing Device****ABSTRACT**

5           A pointing device having a puck sub-assembly and a base sub-assembly is disclosed.  
The puck sub-assembly includes a moveable puck having a user sensor that detects the  
interaction of a user and the puck. The puck is confined to move within a puck field of  
motion. The puck sub-assembly includes a support member having an opening therein that  
determines a boundary for the puck field of motion. The base sub-assembly includes a base  
10 surface over which the puck moves, a position detector that measures the position of the puck  
in the puck field of motion, and an attachment mechanism. The attachment mechanism  
connects the base sub-assembly to the puck sub-assembly such that the puck sub-assembly is  
easily removed. The base surface is accessible when the puck sub-assembly is separated from  
the base assembly. The puck sub-assembly can also include a restoring mechanism that  
15 returns the puck to a predetermined area.